

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for reducing image data, wherein the image comprises a plurality of pixels, the method comprising: determining a first set of pixels of an image in memory to be coalesced with a second set of pixels of an image in memory, the first and second sets being adjacent to one another and being oriented in a first direction; determining a third set of pixels of an image in memory to be coalesced with a fourth set of pixels of an image in memory, the third and fourth sets being adjacent to one another and being oriented in a second direction; coalescing the first and second sets of pixels; and coalescing the third and fourth sets of pixels; and transmitting the image from memory.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first and second sets of pixels comprise rows of pixels, and the third and fourth sets of pixels comprise columns of pixels.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein each of the pixels comprises a color and the method further comprises categorizing the colors of the pixels in the image as contone colors and linework colors.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein pixels categorized as linework are collapsible with any adjacent pixel.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein categorizing colors comprises: calculating the number of pixels in the image that are the same color; determining if a first pixel color is significantly more common than other pixel colors in the image; and designating pixels of said first pixel color as linework in the image.

6. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein categorizing colors comprises: determining a regular pattern of pixels from the image; locating pixels of a first color that do not conform to said regular pattern; and designating said pixels of said first pixel color as linework in the image.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein determining a regular pattern comprises: calculating color transitions along said first group; calculating color transitions along said third group; determining pattern boundaries of contone colored pixels based on high transition counts as indicating pattern boundaries; and determining a regular pattern in the image based on said pattern boundaries.

8. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein categorizing colors comprises: calculating the number of pixels of each pixel color in the image; determining if at least one first pixel color is significantly more common than other pixel colors in the image; determining a regular pattern of pixels from the image; and locating pixels of at least one second color that do not conform to said regular pattern.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising: determining that there is more of said at least one first pixel color than of said at least one second pixel color; and designating said at least one first pixel color as linework in the image.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising: determining that there is less of said at least one first pixel color than of said at least one second pixel color; and designating said at least one second pixel color as linework in the image.

11. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising designating all pixel colors at both said at least one first pixel color and said at least one second pixel color as linework in the image.

12. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising designating either said at least one first pixel color or said at least one second pixel color as linework in the image based on predetermined preference.

13. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein determining a regular pattern comprises: calculating color transitions in said first group; calculating color transitions in said third group; determining pattern boundaries of contone colored pixels based on high transition counts as indicating pattern boundaries; and determining a regular pattern in the image based on said pattern boundaries.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said image is an upsampled image.

15. Cancelled.

16. Cancelled.

17. (Currently Amended) A method for reducing the storage required for an image, wherein the image comprises a first plurality of pixels of an image in memory with contone colors, and a second plurality of linework pixels of an image in memory with at least one linework color, the method comprising: determining which pixels in a first row of pixels in the image may be coalesced with a second row of pixels in the image, wherein any continuous tone pixels along said first row may be coalesced with an adjacent continuous tone pixel of the same color in said second row and an adjacent linework pixel of any color in said second row; determining which pixels along a first column of pixels in the image may be coalesced with a second column of pixels in the image, wherein any continuous tone pixels along said first column may be coalesced with an adjacent continuous tone pixel of the same color in said second column and an adjacent linework pixel of any color in said second column; coalescing the pixels along said first row with the pixels along said second row; and coalescing the pixels along said first column with the pixels along said second column; and transmitting the image from memory.

18. (Original) A computing apparatus having a processor and a memory having computer executable instructions for performing the method of claim 17.

19. (Original) A computer readable medium having computer executable instructions for performing the method of claim 17.

20. (Currently Amended) A method for reducing the storage required for an image, wherein the image comprises a plurality of pixels of an image in memory and each pixel comprises a color, the method comprising: determining pixels of the image in a first row to be coalesced with pixels along an adjacent row; determining pixels in a first column to be coalesced with pixels along an adjacent column; coalescing the pixels in said first row with the pixels in said adjacent row; and coalescing the pixels in said first column with the pixels along said adjacent column; and transmitting the image from memory.

21. (Original) A computing apparatus having a processor and a memory having computer executable instructions for performing the method of claim 20.

22. (Original) A computer readable medium having computer executable instructions for performing the method of claim 20.

23. (New) A computing apparatus having a processor and a memory having computer executable instructions for performing the method for reducing image data, the method comprising: inputting into memory an image comprising a plurality of pixels; determining a first set of pixels of the image to be coalesced with a second set of pixels of the image, the first and second sets being adjacent to one another and being oriented in a first direction; determining a third set of pixels of the image to be coalesced with a fourth set of pixels of the image, the third and fourth sets being adjacent to one another and being oriented in a second direction; coalescing the first and second sets of pixels; and

coalescing the third and fourth sets of pixels.

24. (New) A computer readable medium having computer executable instructions for performing the method for reducing image data, the method comprising: inputting into memory an image comprising a plurality of pixels; determining a first set of pixels of the image to be coalesced with a second set of pixels of the image the first and second sets being adjacent to one another and being oriented in a first direction; determining a third set of pixels of the image be coalesced with a fourth set of pixels of the image, the third and fourth sets being adjacent to one another and being oriented in a second direction; coalescing the first and second sets of pixels; and coalescing the third and fourth sets of pixels.